for each of one or more of said keys associated with the letters comprising the spelling of said word, determining a corresponding matching point on said input path;

calculating said numerical score from a function of one or more of the distances from each determined matching point on said input path to the location of the corresponding matched key associated with a letter of the compared word;

determining one or more penalty amounts that are included in the calculation of said function when one or more of said designated points of inflection is not determined as a matching point for any key associated with a letter of the compared word;

determining one or more penalty amounts that are included in the calculation of said function for each instance in which no corresponding matching point is determined for one or more keys associated with letters of the compared word;

determining one or more penalty amounts that are included in the calculation of said function for each instance in which the order of the sequence along the input path of matching points does not correspond with the sequence of said associated letters in the spelling of the compared word;

a fifth component for establishing a relative ranking of the words according to the comparison and the frequency associated with the word.

58. The apparatus of claim 57, further comprising:

a sixth component for presenting one or more of the ranked words on the output device.

59. The apparatus of claim 57, further comprising:

a sixth component for comparing the numerical scores determined for the highest ranked word and the second-highest ranked word; and

a seventh component for selecting the highest ranked word as text to be generated for input when the comparison between the numerical scores exceeds a determined threshold.

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